

09/752,750
Attorney Docket: 42390P10415

REMARKS

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for the telephonic interview of October 14, 2004. Pursuant to our discussion, the claims are amended as above. A Request for Drawing Correction is submitted herein to correct Figure 3. In reference numeral 315, the "AND" operator should show an "ADD" operator. This correction is supported in the Specification as originally filed. Thus, the drawing correction does not introduce new matter, nor does this modification change the scope of the claimed inventions. Claims 9, 11, 14 and 43 are amended. Claims 10 and 15 are canceled because their limitations are recited in Claims 9 and 14, respectively. Claims 7, 9, 11-12, 14, 16-17, 23-30, 35, and 40-48 are now pending in the application.

During our interview, the Examiner questioned whether Claim 7 recited an adding unit in error. Claim 7 is correct as previously amended. Figure 3, reference numeral 315, should show an "ADD" operator instead of an "AND" operator. This is a typographical error. The Specification as originally filed clearly describes this operation as an ADD operation. See specifically, page 8, line 11, for instance.

Claim 9 is amended to recite that the comparator uses a less than comparison. Similarly, Claim 14 is amended to recite that the comparator uses a greater than comparison. These claims should now be sufficiently distinct from each other, as discussed in the telephonic interview. Both Claims 9 and 14 are amended to correct the recitation of the "input value" as the "second integer" in the subtractor unit element. Applicant thanks the Examiner for pointing out this typographical error. Claim 11 is amended to correct a grammatical error only. Claim 43 is amended to add the limitation of performing a bit-wise logical AND operation, as requested by the Examiner in the telephonic interview.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Claims 7, 9, 11-12, 14, 16-17, 23-30, 35, and 40-48 are all in condition for immediate allowance. If the Examiner has any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 633-6845. Early issuance of Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Please charge any shortage of fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 50-0221 and please credit any excess fees to such account.

Respectfully submitted,

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